

The Elites' CD revisits blues giants

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 in various rock bands and jam nights.
 He opened for Glass Tiger and The Northern Pikes when they were in town.
 His first band was The Tennessee Mudcats, a blues steeped group that played everything from Dylan to Hendrix.
 "Their crowd was more the hell-raising, beer-drinking type that would yell 'Play Lynyrd Skynyrd' and then pass out on the sidewalk," joked Mr. Burton.
 Somewhere along the line he got serious, taking singing lessons in New York and studying classical guitar at Humber College.
 Learning classical guitar taught him a thing or two about finesse, said Mr.

Burton.
 "It gives you the facility to play certain things you normally couldn't have," he said. "It's the epitome of finesse technique."
 That stood him in good stead with The Elites, who released their debut CD Uptown Blues last summer.
 The CD revisits blues giants like Muddy Waters and injects them with jazz and swing. It was rated number seven on HMV's top 10 Indie Nation list for November.
 Since forming, the band has played The Beaches Blues Festival and appeared on City TV's Breakfast Television.
 They're thinking of holding a CD release

party at the Hardball Cafe in Milton in the next few months.
 The band's solid play schedule ought to keep everyone on their musical toes but the unflappable Mr. Burton all but busts a gut laughing at the notion that it could make daily guitar noodling unnecessary.
 "I try to practice four hours a day," he said after composing himself. "It's all part of this neurotic perfectionism that I have."
 Somehow Mr. Burton finds spare time to write his own R&B songs, which he hopes to release on CD some day, teach guitar, and produce the young Halton Hills rock band, Holli.
 "I spread myself too thin," he said. "A lot of musicians do that."

'Elvis' will rock church Sunday

Milton's Men II Boys and Elvis impersonator Steve Kabakos will rock St. Paul's United Church on Sunday, Dec. 20.
 They'll combine their musical talents for a 3 p.m. concert that will have the Tennessee Valley Band & Memphis Sound backing up Mr. Kabakos, who was the first runner-up at this year's Canadian Professional Elvis Competition in Collingwood.
 He will be joined by accomplished local musician Dave Coulter.
 Tickets for the show — available at Coulter Music and Delacourt's — are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors.

MNR BIOLOGIST TO SPEAK AT LOCAL CLUB MEETING

Ministry of Natural Resources biologist Warren May will be speaking at the December 16 meeting of the Four Season Anglers and Hunters. The club cordially invites interested members of the public to attend this meeting which will start at 7:30 pm at the Milton Optimist Centre. Four Season Anglers and Hunters is a local angling and hunting club with a strong tradition of community involvement and resource stewardship. The club is currently accepting new members with similar interests.

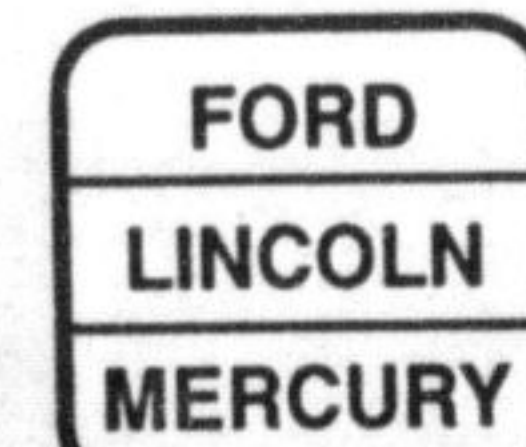
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